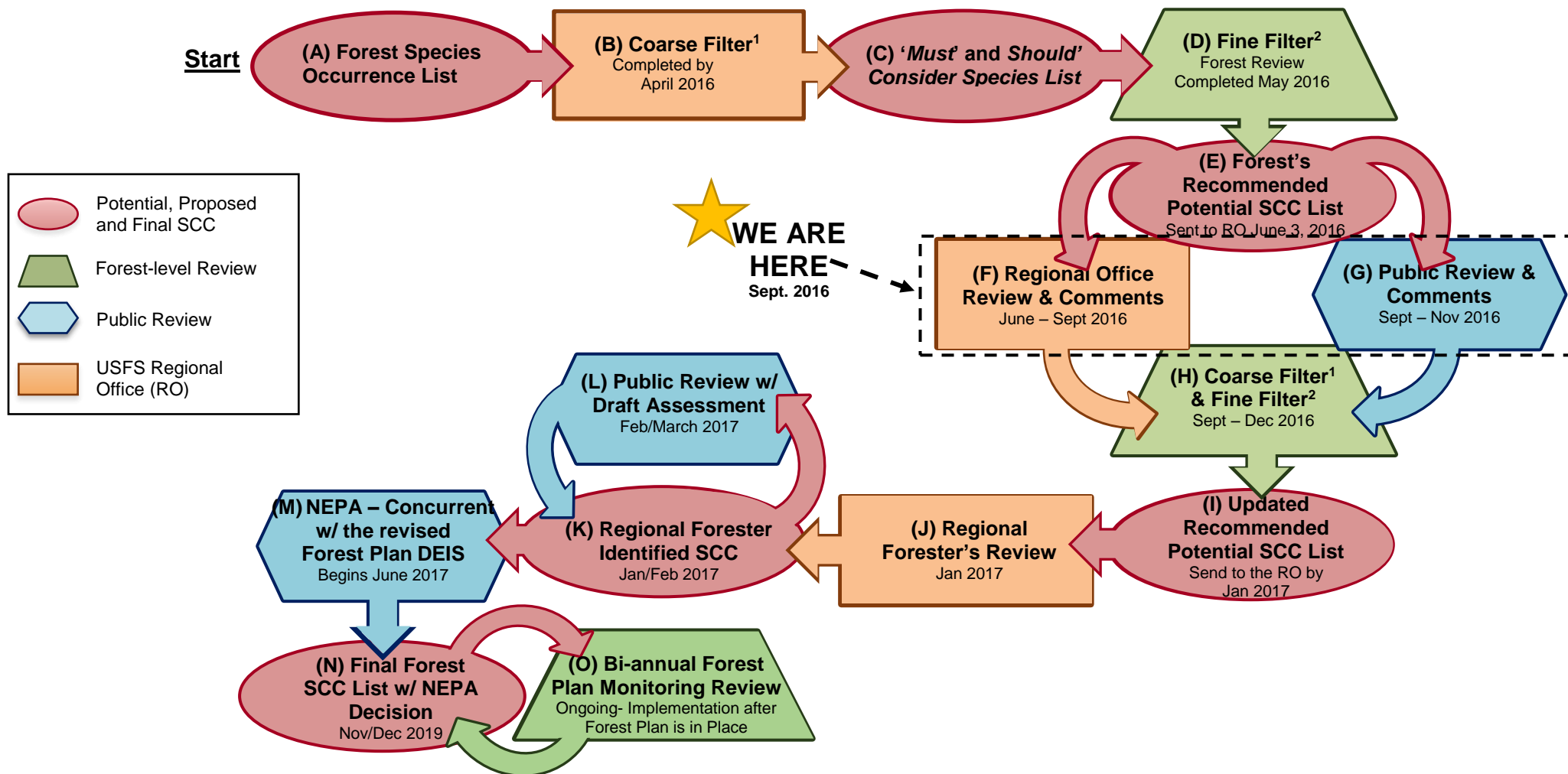


# Manti-La Sal National Forest

## Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) Selection Process\*

This flowchart describes the process followed to identify which species will be placed on the Manti-La Sal National Forest's SCC list. This list will be incorporated into the revised Forest Plan per the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219) and the Forest Service Handbook (1909.12, Chapter 10).

- The **Regional Forester** is responsible for deciding which species will be placed on the Forest's SCC list.
- The **Forest** is responsible for providing input, assisting in the review process and soliciting input from the public.



**Species of Conservation Concern:** A species "...other than federally recognized threatened, endangered, proposed or candidate species, that is known to occur in the plan area and for which the regional forester has determined that the best available scientific information indicates substantial concern about the species' capacity to persist over the long-term in the plan area." [36 CFR 209.9(c)]

\*Additional information regarding this flow chart is available on the back side of this handout.

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- (A) **Forest Species Occurrence List:** This list consists of known plant, animal, and insect species recorded as occurring or having occurred on the Forest.
- (B) **Coarse Filter<sup>1</sup>:** This level of species review was completed by the Regional Office (Table 1).
- (C) **‘Must’ and ‘Should’ Consider Species:** These species meet the criteria outlined within the Forest Service Handbook (FSH 1909.12as species that either ‘must’ or ‘should’ be considered for SCC status; meeting these criteria means these species either ‘must’ or ‘should’ undergo further review, it does not necessitate that these species be listed as SCC.
- (D) **Fine Filter<sup>2</sup>:** This level of species review was completed by Forest natural resource specialists (Table 1).
- (E) **Forest’s Recommended Potential SCC List:** These 12-species were initially recommended from the Forest to the Regional Forester for consideration for SCC status. This is an initial list and is subject to additional review by the Regional Forester, the Forest and the Public.
- (F) **Regional Office Review & Comments:** The Regional Forester and/or resource specialists identified by the Regional Forester will review the Forests’ recommendations for all species (23-Nonplant & 53-Plant) that were originally identified as ‘must’ or ‘should’ and provide comments back to the Forest.
- (G) **Public Review & Comments:** The original ‘must’ or ‘should’ list as well as the Forest’s initial recommendations will be provided to the Public for review. At this step in the process, the public will have the chance to comment and provide information.
- (H) **Coarse Filter<sup>1</sup> & Fine Filter<sup>2</sup>:** The Forest will take all comments and information provided by the Regional Forester and the Public and will apply the filtering criteria (Table 1) to determine what changes, if any, in Forest recommendations will be made.
- (I) **Updated Recommended Potential SCC List:** This will be the updated Forest recommendation list of potential SCC species resulting from the comments received; these changes in addition to the Forest’s responses to the comments reviewed from the Public, will be sent to the Regional Forester.
- (J) **Regional Forester’s Review:** At this step, the Regional Forester will review the comments from the Public and the Forest’s updated recommendations and will make a determination for which species will be included in the Draft Assessment.
- (K) **Regional Forester Identified SCC:** This will be the list that results from the Regional Forester’s review in Step-J.
- (L) **Public Review w/ Draft Assessment:** The list generated in Step-J will be included in the Draft Assessment that will be sent out for Public review, additional changes may result.
- (M) **NEPA – Concurrent w/ the revised Forest Plan DEIS:** The list resulting from Step-L will be included in the DEIS sent out for Public review.
- (N) **Final Forest SCC List with NEPA Decision:** This will be the SCC list that will be including in the final revised Forest Plan.
- (O) **Bi-annual Forest Plan Monitoring Review:** At a minimum of every two-years as a part of the monitoring review required in the 2012 Planning Rule, the status of the species on this list, and if needed other species on the Forest, will be review to determine if any changes need to be made.

TABLE 1.

<sup>1</sup> Coarse Filter Criteria*	<sup>2</sup> Fine Filter Criteria*
Species occurrence: (1) native and (2) known to occur in the plan area	Best Available Scientific Information (BASI)
NatureServe Status at three scales: global (G), national (N) and state (S)	Adjacent National Forest Species’ Status
Removed from the Federal Threatened & Endangered List in the last 5-years	State & Federally Recognized Tribes T&E and High Priority Species Status
Positive ‘90-day finding’ for Federally Listed Status	
Substantial concern about the species’ capacity to persist over the long-term in the plan area	Substantial concern about the species’ capacity to persist over the long-term in the plan area

*\*For additional information see the ‘Directive-based Process for Determining Potential Species of Conservation Concern Under the 2012 Planning Rule’ flowchart handout or the sources cited below.*

#### Literature Cited

U.S. Department of Agriculture (DOA), Forest Service. 2012. The 2012 Planning Rule. Federal Register 36:219 (April 9, 2012).

U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Forest Service Handbook (FSH). 2015. 1909.12 – Land Management Planning Handbook; Chapter 10 – Assessment. Technical Amendment. Amendment No. 1909.12-2015-1 (Effective Date: January 20, 2015).